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Shakespeare

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The Dead Pearme.

or

Westminster's Complaint for long Vacations and short termes.

Written in manner of a Dialogue betweene The two Cityes London and Westminster.

By T. Dekker.

London

Printed and are to be sold by John Hodgets at his house in Pauls Church-yard, 1608.

To the very Woorthy, Learned, *Iuditious, and Noble Gentleman, Syr Iohn* Harrington Knight.

IR, the Loue (which your immortall Ariosto *tels to the world) that you really beare to* Diuine, *(but now* Poore *and* Contemned *)* Poesie, *hath a long time made me an* Honorer *of those bright ascending* Vertues *in you, which those* Holy *and* Pure Flames *of* Her *haue kindled in your bosome.* Happy *you are by* Birth, *Happy, by your bringing vp, but most happy in that the* Muses *were your* Nurses, *to whome you haue beene so tender, that they make you an* Elder *sonne and* Heyre *of their* Goodliest Possessions. *So that your* Loue *to* Them, *hath drawne from* Others, *an* Honourable Loue *and* Regarde *of you. The* Path *which* True Noblenesse *had wont (and ought) to tread, lyes directly before you: you haue beene euer, and are now in the way, which emboldens me to presume, that as our* Greatest Commanders *will not disdaine to instruct euen* Fresh-water souldiers *in the Schoole-poynts of war, So (out of your Noble disposition) you will vouchsafe to viewe the labours of so dull a* Pen, *as* This *that writes, vnto you. Two* Citties *haue I summoned to a* Parley, *and of their great* Enter-view *haue I chosen you to be* Arbiter. *It is* Boldnes *in me, I confesse, but it is the* Boldnes, *of my* Loue, *referring which (and my selfe) to your worthy* Censure, I Rest.

Deuoted to you in all seruice.

Thomas Dekker.

Westminsters speech to *London*.

Thou goodliest Queene, euen ouer the greatest Citties! How glad am I (O London) that wee two are met together? For now will I poure my sorrowes into thy bosome. Thou art Reuerend for thy Age, (as being now, two thousand seauen hundred and fourtéene yeares old, which is more then my selfe, am, by a thousand, six hundred and foure yeares) for I am but one thousand, one hundred, and tenne yeares of age.) Thou art Grandam almost to this whole Kingdome: A blessed Mother thou art, for vs lesse then one hundred and threescore Emperours, Kinges, and Queens, hast thou borne in thy Wombe. Healthfull thou art of body, it appeareth by thy strength in holding out so long: pure thou art of complexion; It is seene by thy Cheekes, the Roofes of them are nothing wythered: Rich thou art in the treasure of all thinges, witnesse the number of Nations, that for thy substaunce, are thy dayly suitors: Stored are thy breastes with wisedome, and the glory thereof shines in the gouernment of thy Rulers.

Brute builded London, he conquered this Ile in An. 1108. yeares before Christ. Sybert King of the East Saxons, builded Westminster: he raigned in An. 596. after Christ.

160. Kinges in Brittaine since Brute.

Thou art full of pollicy, great with experience, renowned for Learning; Thou art full of loue, full of pitty, full of piety: yea, thou art (O Noblest Daughter of Brutus) my Eldest Sister; thou rather (if our descents bee well looked into) art my Mother.

Vnto whom therefore can my condolements better come than to thée. Vpon whose lap shall I lay my aking temples if not vpon thine? One eye of Heauen lookes downe vpon vs both; one and the same handfull of earth, serues vs both to dwell vppon: The teares that fall from both our eyes, make vp one Riuer, and that Riuer serues againe for both our bodyes to bath in.

Since therefore wee are partners in all other thinges, why should wee not be Sharers in our mothers affliction! Thou standest silent, I see at these my speeches, as beeing driuen into wonder, why I (that haue alwayes kept company with the proudest, and beene euer Iocond) should now sinke downe into any kinde of complaynings. But to keepe thée (O my best and fairest Neighbour) from tormenting thy selfe with thinking on the causes of this my grieuing: let mée tell thée (thou Nurse to many thousandes of people) that I doe not pine, to see that Auncient and eldest * Sonne of mine, with his Limbes broken to peeces, (as if hee were a Male-factor, and hadde beene tortured on the Germaine Wheele:) his Reuerend Head cut off by the cruelty of Time; The Ribbes of his body bruized; His Armes lop't away; His backe (that euen grew crooked with age) almoost cleft in sunder: yea, and the ground (on which hee hath dwelt so many * hundreds of yeeres) ready to bee pulled from vnder his feete, so that with greefe his very heart seemes to be broken.

* Charing-Crosse.

* 316. yeeres since Charing Crosse was build:d by Ed: 1, Anno. Chri. 1291.

I confesse (than brauest of Citties) that this Graund-Childe of mine, hath beene the tallest and hardiest of all the Sonnes of my body: for thou knowest it aswell as I, that hee hath borne himselfe valiantly, (and without shrinking) in

An Encomion of Charing Crosse.

in many a storme. Many a tempest hath beene flung from Heauen to shake him, yet still hath hee kept his owne footing.

Many a stounding blow hath he taken on his head, yet for a long time did he beare them without reeling. So well beloued hath hee beene amongst the Kinges and Princes of this Nation, that they would almost neuer passe, to those Royall Pallaces where I inhabit, and neuer repayre to their Houses of Parliaments, or to their places of Kingly Tryumphes, but they would of purpose take their way by him: yea, so greatly hath hee in times past beene helde in honour, that the knees of common people hath beene bowed before him, and the bare heades of the greatest Prelates heretofore haue shewed to him a kinde of reuerence. Yet it is not for his sake (O farre-renowned Troynouant) that my Soule lines in sorrow: albeit, I see him now laughed at and contemned.

Neither am I afflicted by beholding the vnruliynesse of those Children that are vnder my keeping. It were a madnesse in mee to frette at their wickednesse, because no sorrow of mine can amend it. I know it, and am ashamed to tell thee, that Drunkennesse reeles euery day vp and down my streetes. Fellowes there are that follow mee, who in deepe bowles shall drowne the Dutchman, and make him lie vnder the Table. At his owne weapon of Vpsie freeze will they dare him, and beat him with wine-pots till hee be dead drunke. But swagger they will besides (being armed with that French weapon) a whole Fayre full of Butchers and Tinkers, who commonly are the greatest Fighters, and most profanno swearers. As for that sin that is after serued in dinner, and after Supper: or rather that sinne that is vp night and day, and can see aswell in darkenesse as in Light: that Monster with two bellies, (Lechery I meane) doe what I can, no whips are able to make it leape out of my Iurisdiction. More May den-heades I verily be-

The sinnes of Westminsters.

Drunkennesse.

Quarrelling.

Lechery.

let me are cut off vpon my owne feather-beds (in one year) than are heads of Cattell cut off in (in two) amongst the Butchers that serue my families.

But I feare (O London) that by dwelling so near thée thou hast infected my houses with these two plagues, that now run ouer all the Kingdome: for all the world knowes that euen thy shop-keepers and poorest Tradesmen lay by their owne occupations, and fall to these.

Pride. Other sinnes lies gnawing (like diseases) at my heart, for Pride sits at the doores of the rich: Enuy goes vp and downe with the Begger, feeding vpon Snakes. Rents are layde vpon the racke (euen my owne sight) and by my owne Children that I haue borne, whilst Conscience goes like a foole in pyed colours, the skin of her body hanging so loose, that like an Oxford Gloue, thou wouldst swear there wer a false skin within her.

Enuy. Extortion.

Auarice Couerousnes hath got a hundred handes, and all those handes do nothing but tye knots on her Purse-strings, but Prodigality hauing but two handes, vndoes those knottes faster, than the other can tie them. O thou Darling of Great Brittaine, thy Princes call thée Their Treasurer and thou art so. But more peeces of Siluer and Gold passe not through thy fingers, then oathes from the mouthes of my inhabitants.

Vnthriftines.

Thou art held to be (O London) the lowdest swearer in the kingdome, because (some say) thou hast whole shoppes and Ware-houses filled with oathes yet I feare, I haue those about me that for filthy mouthing wil put thée down, for I am haunted with some that are called Knights onely for their swearing. Rankely doe these and other stinking weedes grow vp in my walkes, and in my Gardens, the sauours of them are Pestilent to my Nostrils, and are able to kill me, yet much good wholesome fruits do I feed vpon, that are to my life a preseruation. So, that for the aches that these diseases breed in my bones I doe not languish neyther.

Swearing.

Knights of the Post.

Thou

Thou knowest and I confesse it, (for if I should not, the whole world would swear it) that thou possessest the more, but I the more goodly buildings: thy houses are contrived for thrift and profitable vses, mine for state and pleasure: thou dwellest vnder plaine roofes, I within royall Pallaces: euery roome that thou lodgest in, is but called a Chamber, and euery Chamber I sleepe in, is a Kinges Court: In thine Armes lie the sonnes of England to suck wealth, but in my lap sit the Princes of England to be Crowned, In my bosome doe they slumber whilest they liue, and when they dye, they desire to bee buried betwéene my breasts.

The building of Westminster and London compared.

To testifie this, all the annoyted kinges and Queenes, (except one, who receiued his Crowne at Glocester) with all the Wiues of those kinges, that haue raigned heere since that Norman Conqueror, would if they were now liuing speake on my side in that behalfe, for the full number of 21. Kinges and two Quéens (being a payre of Sisters) haue receiued the glorious Titles of Maiestie, and were seen the very first day of their sitting on the English throne onely at my hands, and in my presence, of which that conquerour, and Matilda (his wife) had the honour to begin, for till hys time, other places wer made happy by that dignity, as Kingston, &c. which then were farre aboue me, but now can no way be my equall.

21 Kings and two Queenes besides the wiues of those Kinges haue bin crowned at Westminst.

To prove how much the Rulers of this Monarchy haue loued mee euen on their Death-beds, their bodies which they haue (as their richest Legacies) bequethed to my kéeping, are royall witnesses. I can shew thee (O thou Noblest of thy Nation) the bones not onely of most of those kinges before-named, but of some that lived here long before them.

William conquerour, and his Wife the first that were crowned in Westminster.

But because the Graue is the vtter destroyer of al beauty, yea and so defaceth the lookes and the bodies euen of the goodliest princes, that men abhorre to behold them: also for that it is helde an acte most impious, and full of Sacriledge to offer violence to the deade, I will onely giue thee

the names of all those Kinges, Queenes, and Princes Royal blood, that now lay their heads on my knees & must sleepe there till that day, when all that rest in graues, shal be summoned to awaken. Of these, was Sybert (King of the East-Saxons) the first, with his wife Æthelfoda. Sybert gaue me my first being in the world, and at his departure from the worlde, did I giue his body an euerlasting habitation Next vnto him did I lay Harold (Sir-named Hare-foot) King of the West Saxons.

Kings buryed in Westmin.

Then Edward the Confessor, vppon whome king William bestowed a shryne of Syluer and Golde. And then these.

Ægytha, wife to that Conquerour.

Matilda, wife to Henry the first, and daughter to Malcoline king of Scots.

Henry 3. who builded a great part of that my famous Temple, and whose Sepulcher was adorned with precious stones of Iasper, fetched by his sonne Edwarde the 1. out of France.

Eleanor, wife to that Henry.

Edmund second Sonne to that Henrie, the first Earle of Lancaster, Darby, and Leicester, wyth Auelyne (hys Wife) who was Daughter and heyre to the Earle of Albemarle.

Besides him, all the Children of the sayde Henry the 3. and of Edward, 1. (being nine in number.)

Edward the first, who offered to the Shryne of Edward the Confessor, the Chaire of Marble, wherein the kinges of Scotland had wont to be crowned, and in which the king that first made England and Scotlande one Monarchy, was now lately inthronized. Eleanor wife to that Edward 1. and Daughter to Ferdinando king of Castyle. In memory of whose death, so many stately Crosses (as Monnumentes of his loue to her) were erected in all those places where her body was set downe, when it was sent to bee lodged with mee.

Elea-

Eleanor, Countesse of Barre, Daughter of Edwarde the first,

Edward 3. and Phillip of Henalt (his wife.)

William of Windsore and Blanch (his Sister) children to Edward the third.

Thomas of Woodstock, sonne likewise to that Edward, Iohn of Eltham, (Earle of Cornewall) sonne to Edward the second.

Richard 2. that vnfortunate king with Anne his Wife, Daughter of Vincesslaus king of Bohem, which Anne brought vp the fashion for women to ride in side Saddles, which till her time rode as men.

Then that Guttorum Mastix, the scourge of the French, Henry 5. to doe honor to whose victorious and dreaded name, Katherine his wife, and daughter to the King of France, caused an Image (to the portraiture of hir husbande) to bee made of Mally Siluer, all gilded ouer, which was layde vpon his Monument: but Couetousnes, not suffering euen hallowed places, and the shrines of the dead to bee free from hir griping talents, the head of that Image, which was al of Mally siluer, is now broke off, & the plates that couered the body stoln, and conueyed away.

That royall Queene and Bedfellow of his, Lady Katherine, was with mee likewise layd to rest, but after, beeing taken vp, (without any wrong meant to the body) it nowe lyes vnburied in a poore Coffin of bordes, and with the least touch falleth into ashes.

Adde to these, Anne the wife of Richard the third.

Margaret Countesse of Richmond and Darby, mother to Henry the 7.

Anne of Cleue, wife to Henry the 8.

Henry 7. and Elizabeth his wife, do in mine armes likewise take their euerlasting sleeps: so does Elizabeth daughter to those most happy Princes.

So doth Margaret daughter to Edward 4.

So doth Edward the 6. Sonne to that famous prince, Henry 8.

So doth Mary whose name serues her only as a Monument.

And lastly so doth Elizabeth, daughter to that great wariour, who if shee had no Monnument at all consecrated to memory, yet were her name sufficient to eternize her Sacred worth, and the wonder of her 44. years gouernement. Thus (besides other personages of great byrth, too many in number for me to recite and too tedious for thee to heare) am I compassed about with the dead bodies of 42. Kings, Quænes, and the sons and daughters of Kings & Quænes, ye remembrance of whom is able to turn me wt sorrow into Marble, *but ye their statues & sumptuous monuments, do shine in my Temples, and worke such astonishment in the eyes (euen of straungers) that I esteeme that hurt of mine, the best part of my glory. Besides all these gallant obiects. The swifte-footed Thamesis, daunceth all the day long, (in wanton Water-ringes) before mee, shee transformes her Christall body into a thousand shapes to delight mee: Sometimes does shee chaunge her selfe into *a Girdle of Siluer, and then doe I weare it about my middle. Sometimes lookes shee like an * Amazon, (along curled hayre hanging loosely about her shoulders) and then dooes shee fight with the windes, and her combates are discharged with excellent grace. Anon shall you beholde her lymbes stretcht out to an infinite, but comely *length,) and then (O my worthyest Sister) doe we two grow proude, and take her for a Ryuer: whilest shee continues in that shape, thou knowest what delicate turnings and windinges shee does make euen at our feete: thy habitations stande then like a rich Embrodery about the skirts of an imperial garment, but my buildinges shew like so many Castles, raised by Enchantment, where faire Ladies locke vppe their beauties, whilst knights aduenturers come armed thether with loyalty, challenging them for their loues: yea in such gaudy, & in so artificiall an order are my Turrets and Towers erected, that the Sun (at his rising) makes mee beleeue

42 Kings and Queenes and the Children of Kings buried in West.

*High water.

Rough water.

Ebbing water for then shee runs into the Sea, where hir length cannot be measured.

léue they are Rockes of Burnisht Siluer, & with his blushing vpon them (at his going downe) I haue a thousande times sworne they were so many hils of Gold.

Bee thou nowe an indifferent Iudge (O London, thou fayrest Daughter of Europe) if I, beeing accustomed to this fulnesse of dignitie, and this variety of pleasures, haue not good cause to languishe when I am deprived of them all. The more princely are my guests, the more insufferable, and more to be pittied are my passions, spent for their absence. Well was it for thée (thou Metropolis of the world) that the honours, the Habits, the Tryumphes, the gifts of Kinges, and the Reuennewes that belong to my Royalteyes, are not made Thine: thou swellest in thy heart enough already, but then wouldst thou haue bin too proud and insolent.

How therefore can I chuse but bufket my owne chékes through the anguish of my Soule? Teare my owne hayre to sée my selfe distressed? and euen drinke mine own hart-bloud in teares, to looke on my present miserie? Listen to me: for now (O my déerest Play-fellow) shalt thou heare the very true tunes of my most iust bewaylings.

Those throwes of sorowe come vppon mee foure times euery yéere, but at one time more, (and with more paines) then at all the rest. For in the height and luskiest pride of Summer, when euery little Village hath her Bachilers & her Damosels tripping deftly about May-pols: when Medowes are full of Hay-makers: when the fields vpon the workidaies are full of Harueslars singing, and the town-grénes vpon Hollydayes, trodden downe by the Youthes of the Parish dancing: when thou (O thou beautifull, but bewitching Citty) by the wantonnesse of thine eye, and the Musicke of thy voyce allurest people from all the corners of the Land, to throng in heapes, at thy Fayres and thy Theatres; Then, (euen then) sit I like a Widdow in the middest of my mourning: then doe my buildings shew like infected lodgings, from which the Inhabitants are fledde:

Westminsters complaint.

Bartholmew-tide.

The long vacation before Michelmas Tearme.

then are my chambers empty, and my common paths vntrodden: then doe I not looke like thy next neighbour, but like a creature forlorne, and vtterly forsaken. Were it not that my state is vpheld by fiue great Pillers, (the chiefe of them being so hie, that Kinges and Princes sit on the top of it) I should euen loose my name, and the memory of mee would be buryed in the earth, that now beares me vp.

The Court & 4. Tearmes.

That first and Capitall * Columne (on which leanes all my strength) is a Pyramides, whose point reaches vppe to the Starres: whilest that stands in mine eye, I behold a * Maiesty, equall to Ioues: I see a * Vine, whose braunches shall spread so farre, and so hie, that one day they shall couer Kingdomes. I see likewise a * Table, at which sit none, but Those, whose heads grow white onely with the Cares of a Kingdom: I see a Row of * Lords too, whose flourishing doth dignify the place vppon which they grow, and whose shady boughes beate backe, and keepe off from the people the violent heate of Tyrany and oppression: Besides all these, do I behold a godly Fountain, * large, cleare, strongly, and curiously built, out of which come a thousand pipes, (some greater then the rest) thorough whome a sweete water flowes, that giues life vnto the Soule. And last of all (so full is my happinesse) in stead of earthly Creatures, I see none but * Goddesses. But (woe is me) when this great Piller is remoued from my sight, then (casting vp mine eye) me thinks I looke vpon nothing but my owne Ruines. Nay, that calamitie of mine doth euen stretch to thee: for thou thy selfe, for all thy loftinesse and boasting, dooest at that time droope, and hange the head.

* The Court.
* The King.
* The Queen and her Progeny.
* The Counsell.
* The Nobility.
* The Clergy
* The Ladyes of the Court.

But note how the Rulers of this Land haue loued mee; though they giue mee woundes, they giue mee Balme to cure them: though the Sunne goe from me, yet am I comforted with the brightnesse of the Stars. The Law (which lyes in, at euery Vacation) is brought to bed in foure seuerall months of the yeare, and deliuered of foure * Sonnes. Those Sonnes inuite me to foure kingly Feasts; they keep their

* The foure Tearmes.

their Tournes; and their Returnes, are so many seuerall Seruices. They are the Foure Elements that gouerne and gine life to my body; yea, so deere doe I make them vnto me, that I account of them, as of Foure Golden Ages. Whilest any of these foure abide in my Company, I am more Iocond then a Woman in the embracements of her Louer. My Chackes looke then red, with a high and lusty colour, for I wash them in Wines: my heart is merry, for I nourish it with gladnesse. Then doe my Tenants sleepe soundly, (for they drinke soundly:) Then dare they talke any thing, for they haue Lawe on their sides; Then are they content to take cracht Crownes, though at another time they would stabbe him that should but hitte their eare.

The good that the terms bring to westminster.

Vintners are then as busie as Bees are in Hiues, for as Bees flye from one Flower to another to sucke out Hony, so doth the Drawers leape from one Hogshead to another to let out Wines. In euery roome are the Pottle Pottes working, to bring in gaines to their Maister, as the other labor, to bring forth wax for their hiues. The stings are in the tailes, and that is at the end of their Cups, when they come to a barre for the Reckoning: The Drones are those that drinke that which should doe others good, yet hurt themselues by it, taking too much of it.

How busie Westminster is in a tearme time.

Neither do Tauernes alone fall into this profitable and healthfull sweating Sicknesse: but all other Trades, Occupations, Misteries, and Professions, do row vp & down this Spring-tide streame of businesse; and such good Draughts haue they, that all is Fish that comes into their Net.

Yea, in the open streetes is such walking, such talking, such running, such riding, such clapping to of windowes, such rapping at Chamber doores, such crying out for drink, such buying vp of meate, and such calling vppon Shottes, that at euery such time, I verily beleeue I dwell in a Towne of Warre.

Going to law compared to going to war.

For euery morning do the men of law march to the Hall, as it were to the fielde: The Counsellors are the Leaders, Atturnies and Clarkes, are petty Commaunders, and Officers of the band: the trayned old Weather-beaten Souldiers, are those that haue followed the Law a long time, and haue vndoone themselues by brabblings. The raw, fresh-water Souldiers, are such as entered but yesterday into the action.

In which March of theirs, if you fall but in amongst the Rankes, you will by and by suppose your selfe in the Low-Countries; for as the Souldiers (there) so these (here) talk of nothing but Stratagems and poyntes of War. Some threaten to ouerthrow their aduersaries, vpon assaults and Battryes: Some (as if an enemy were to be blown vp in a Towne) sweare to driue them out of their houses by way of Ejectments: Others, as if they came to the sacking of a Citty, cry out vpon nothing but Attachments, both of goodes and body.

And as among Souldiers, some delight in bloud more then others, so amongst these, some take a pryde in cruelltie more then others, and labour onely to haue their Enemies in Execution. At the length, they come into the fielde, (that is to say, to the Barre) where they must trie the quarrell by Arbiterment of wordes in stead of swords: for there either the one side or other is ouerthrown: There stand the Pikemen (that is to say, such as haue had long sutes) and being wearyed, care not almost which end goes forward, because they are at a stand, The Bill-men hard by them, but they for the most part are euer complaynning. And thus (thou Minion of so many Kinges) doth this stirring vp and downe of my body, stirre vppe my bloud, and keepes mee sound: this peopling of my streets, makes me to be crowned with the title, dignity, and liberties of a Cittie, (for what are Citties if they be not peopled:) this Phisick (so long as I take it) preserues my body in health: But because I am compelled sometimes to giue it ouer, (which is commonly

They that haue had long sutes are like Pike-men, Chancery-mē like Bill-men.

in

in Harueſt, and now a little at the beginning of the fall of the leafe, (for this part of the yeare doth moſt trouble mee) I feele the ſtate of my body weake, and ſubiect to infirmities. For alaſſe there are certaine Canker-Wormes (called Vacations) that deſtroy the Trees of my Inhabitants, ſo ſoone as euer they beare any fruite. Theſe Vacations are to mine owne body, like long and waſting conſumptions, they are more grieuous to my remembrance, then the comming on of a tedious night to a man tormented with ſicknes: or then marriages delaied, to them that lie ſighing for the delights thereof. The hurt that vacations doe to Weſtminſter.

The vnwholeſome breath of Autumne, who is ſo full of diſeaſes, that his very blowing vppon trees, makes their leaues to fal off (as the French Razor ſhaues off the haire of many of thy Suburbians,) euen that, and all the foure Patter-windes that keepe ſuch a bluſtring in the world, do not more ſcatter the duſt of the Earth, then the cold blaſtes of foure Vacations, doe blow abroad the wealth that before I haue gotten together.

In the Tearme-times euery day to me is a day of feaſting, but euery Vacation ſtarues me with ill diet, for all the daies of them are to me nothing but faſting daies. Yea, the Dog-dayes are not halfe ſo vnwholeſome, ſo peſtilent & ſo perilous to the bodyes of men, as thoſe are to mee. The Tearmes are my flowings, the Vacations my ebbinges. So that (if I were ſure the world would not hold mee for a miſerable and couetous wretch) I could euen wiſh, that theſe battayles of the law, were fighting all the yeare long. It were as much glory, fame, and preferment for mee to haue it ſo, as it is for the Low-countries, to be all the year vp in armes.

And tell me I pray, (thou prouident Pictris ouer ſo many families) tell mee in thine opinion, if it were not fit to haue all theſe foure Riuers of the law, run into one ſtream, without any ſtoppings or turnings. For, do but conſider what voyage a man is to make when he ſayes, I muſt goe

to Law: It is a Voyage, but short and easie to finish, if you méete with an honest and skilfull Pilot, that knowes the right puttings in, the watering-places, and the Hauens, and can auoyd the Rockes, Gulfes, Créekes, & quick-sands that lie cleane out of the way, and yet many a thousand do desperately runne themselues on ground, and suffer Ship-wracke vppon them. But on the contrary part, if a Man sets out carelessly, not taking the Counsell of men experienced in those Seas, though he be neuer so well furnished, neuer so well manned, neuer so strong in heart, neuer so able to brooke stormes and tempests; yet let him bee sure to be tossed from coast to Coast, to bee driuen forward with one prosperous gale to day, and to be blown thrée times further backward with a boistrous breath to morrow: to haue his Soule afflicted with cares, and his heart eaten vppe with frettinges, and in the end to finde (to his cost) that he had beene better to haue vndertaken a Voyage to the East and West Indyes: and sooner hadde he made his returne home. So that to hoyst vppe Sayles in this Ocean of Controuersies, and to méete with a fortunate and faire Ariuall, is as much honor, as to go to Ierusalem, and safely to come back againe.

Praise of the Law.

The Law is vnto vs, as the heauens are ouer our heads: of their owne Nature they are clére, gentle, and readie to doe good to man: they giue light to his eyes, comfortable Ayre to his Spirits, warmth to reuiue him, coolenesse to refresh him. But if they bee troubled by brablings and vnruly mindes, and be put from their owne smooth and euen byas, then doe they plague the world with stormes: Then doth Thunder shake the Rich mans building, lightning burnes vp the poore mans Corne, Haile-stones beat down the fruites of the earth, and all Creatures that are within reach of their fury, tremble, and hide their heads at the horrour.

The very phrase of Going to Law, shewes the greatnes, Maiesty, and state of Law: for the Law comes to no man,

but

but he is eyther driuen, or else so busie of himselfe, that he goes to it. The Law sleepes continually, vnlesse shee bee wakened by the wronges of men oppressed, or by the turbulency of those that will not let her rest: for the first sort of which people, she hath a payre of Ballance, wherein shee wieghes their Innocence, and the Iniuries of others, forcing one to make good the hurts of the other. Against the second, she drawes a sword, with which shee both strikes them that break hir peace, and defends thē that are threatned to be struck wrongfully. He that Goes therfore to Law, goes before a personage, whose browes are vnwrinckled, yet full of Iudgement; whose eyes are not wandring, yet turning to both sides; whose lips are sildome opened, yet what they pronounce is iust; whose countenāce is austere, yet setled in vprightnesse; whose hands are open to all, yet neuer filled with bribes; whose heart lies hidden, yet frée from corruption. And what man would not desire to bee hourly conuersant with so excellent, and so composed a creature. He that is vp to the eares in Law, is vp to the eares in experience; He cannot chose but bee a good Subiect, because he keepes the Statutes and ordinances of his Country: he cannot chose but proue a worthy souldier, because he is skill in action: he must of necessity be both honest and pittifull, for hee measureth other mens cases by his owne. Law: why it makes a man watchfull, for he that meddles with it, is sure neuer to sleepe: It keps him from the Irish mans disease, (Lazynes:) from the Dutch-mans weakenesse (in not Bearing drinke:) from the Italians euill spirit that haunts him, (Lust) for hees so busied with so many Actions of the Case, that hee can haue no leysure nor stomacke, to the Case of Actions: It preserues him from the French falling sicknesse, yet no Stoues in Muscouy can put a man into more violent sweates. And last of all, it kepes him out of the English-mans surfeites, for his wapting at his Counsels Chamber so runs in his head, that he scarcely allowes himselfe a time to dine or sup in.

Paradox in prayse of going to law.

O what an excellent Husband doth this going to Law make a man? He giues ouer gaming presently vppon it: He shakes off al commany that drew him to expences, and in euery Vacation is so prouident, that with the Ant hee layes vp Money then, to let it flye amongest Councellors, and Atturnies in the Tearme-time: what an able and lusty bodie doth he get by it, that followes it hard? No Carryer is able to take more paynes: no Porter beares more.

It makes a man to be well giuen, for he prayes (euen as hee ambles vp and downe the Streetes:) It makes him to be beloued amongst Lawyers Clarks, and to be feared amongst his owne neighbours, (two properties which euery King desires from the hearts of his Subiects (Loue and Feare.)

If men should not goe to Lawe one with another, the Courtier would walke vp and down (Jetting) by the Merters dore, and wearing his Silkes vnder his nose, which now he dare not doe. Thy Cittizens (O thou the Best and onely Huswife of this Iland) if Suites were not tryed, some would scarce keepe a good Sute on their backs, Solicitors might likewise goe beg, and Scriueners goe starue themselues.

Had not the people of this large Kingdome falne to so many priuate quarrels, about blowes giuen; To so many intricate bargains, about buying and selling of Lands; To so many Cozenages of wicked Executors, in vndoing Orphans and Heires, and so many starting holes, Crannies, Creuises, windings, wrestlings, rackings, Circumgirations, & Circumuentions, to abuse the beautiful body of the Law, and to make it grow croked, which of it selfe is comly & vpright. And had not the Law prouided cures for these sores of a commen-wealth, & whips to punish such villains, Thou (O princely Mother of many Citties) should'st neuer haue had so many gallant, Sumptuous, & rare Nurseries for young Students, erected full in thine eye, which stand before thy buildinges, as Gates to Kinges Pallaces, and

are

are the onely honor for entrances into thée.

Had not the Inhabitants of this Empyre warred so in law from time to time, one with another, shee coulde not haue boasted of so many Graue, wise, and Learned Judges. Of so many Discréet, Sage, and reuerend Justices, Of so many carefull, prudent, and honourable Maiestrates. By meanes of this, is the Gentry of the Land increased, (for Studyes are Trées that bring forth aduancement) by meanes of this, the multitude is helde in Obedience, for lawes are bridles, to curbe those that are headstrong.

What a rare inuention therefore was pen and Incke, out of whom (as streames from a Fountaine, flow all these wonders? How much beholden are men to his witte, that out of a pore Gose-quill was the first deuiser of so strange an Instrument as a Pen, which carries in it such power, such Conquest, such terror, such comfort, and such authority, that euen the greatest Subiects in kingdomes are glad somtimes to be beholden to it, and as often to tremble whé it is but held vp against them. For a Pen in a princes hand commaunds with as ample force as his Scepter, with it doeth he giue Pardons for life, or the heauy dom of death. It bestowes honours and preferments, and like a Trumpet proclaimes a kinges Liberality. Yea, of such Uertue is that worke which a princes hand doth with it, that Actes of Parliament cannot giue a stronger confirmation.

A Paradox in praise of a Pen.

It giues charters to cities, binds leagues of Ammitie with forraign Nations.

In the hande of a Judge, it is as dreadfull as his voyce, for it either saues or condemnes, pronounceth freedome or imprisonment.

In the handes of a Spirituall finger, it sets downe notes of Musicke, which to heare the very Angels leape for ioy in heauen, and deliuereth forth such Diuine Oracles, that out of them, mortals finde meanes to climbe vp to eternity. Lastly, in the hand of a good Lawyer, a Pen is the common sword of Justice, and doth as much in the quarrell of the pore man as of the rich; with it, doth he help those that

are beaten downe by oppression, and liftes them vp by supplications: but they that are trespassers against the sacred Orders of equity, doeth hee with that Are onely leade into Execution.

In the handes of badde and vnconscionable Lawyers, Pens are forkes of yron, vpon which poore Clients are tossed from one to another, till they bleede to death: yea the nebs of them are like the Beakes of Vultures, (who so they may glutte their appetite with flesh) care not from whose backes they teare it.

How many thousandes (with that little Engyne alone) do raise vp houses to their posterity, whilest the Ignorant prodigall, drownes all the Acres of his Auncestors in the bottome of a Wine-seller, or buries them al in the belly of a Harlot: How many fly higher, and spread a more Noble wing with that one feather, then those Butter-flies do, that stare vp and downe in the eyes of a kingdome, with all the painted feathers of their riotous pride.

Is it not pitty then (O thou wisest Censurer of worldly matters.) Is it not great pitty, that an Instrument of so musicall a sound, of such excellent rarity and perfection, should at any time lie dumbe and vntouched, and not rather be played vpon, euen from the beginning of the Suns early progresse to his ending, and without intermission? It is, It is, and I know for all thy silence thou subscribest in thought to this my opinion.

Thus haue I made thée a witnes of my lamentings, the teares of mine eyes haue in their falling down, dropt vpon thine owne chéekes: I haue opened vnto thée my Bowels, and thou séest what consumptions hang vpon me, to make me pyne to nothing. Be thou now (O thou Bryde worthy the loue euen of the greatest king.) Be thou and the whole worlde my witnesses, if I descend into these complaynings without iust inforcement.

I haue heere, and there (in this story of my fortunes,) reckoned vppe some part of my owne worth, and my owne

miseryinges, least swimming altogether, or too long in the streame of my sorrowes, I shoulde vtterly quicke haue sunke, and so drowne my honour, by forgetting that I am a Citty.

Counsell mee therefore now, (O thou Charitable Releeuer and Receiuer of distressed Strangers) how I way either make this burden of my affliction lye more lightly on my shoulders, or else how my shoulders may bear it with a commendable patience.

Londons aunswere to Westminster.

AT these wordes, (The Mother of the twelue Companies,) once or twice shaking her aged but reuerend head, on the top of which stood (as the Crowne of her honour) a heape of lofty Temples and Pynnacles, to the number of one * hundered and nine) thus grauelie began. 109. parishes in London.

That I haue summoned vppe more yeares, and therefore more care than thou hast (O beloued of all our Englyth Princes) the Chronicles of Tyme, (who sets downe al Occurrents) can testifie.

I dare boast, that Experience hath with her owne finger written her Histories on my fore-head, for I haue had Negotiation with all the Nations that be in the world. I haue seene the growings vppe, and the withering of many Empyres: the obseruation of forraigne Countryes hath bin my studdy, whylest the polliticke and stayed gouernment of my owne hath beene my glory. So carefull haue I beene, and so Jealous of my own estate, (seeing Cittyes greater than my selfe, to lye as lowe nowe as their firste Foundation) that I haue Printed downe theyr mutabilities and their greatest miseries in the midst and depth

of

of my palmes, because they should be euer in mine eye as Cautionary prospects. So that it shall well become thee, (neyther needest thou be ashamed) to borrow aduice from me that am thine Elder, and so beaten to the affayres of the world.

Counsell is the cheapest gift that one Friend can bestow vpon another, yet if it be well husbanded, the Interest of no Golde nor Siluer, can amount to halfe the value of it. Giue me leaue therefore to speake (O thou Courtly Paramour) and to speake my minde boldly, for albeit thou art the Fauourite of Greatnesse, & standest Gracious, (as they Minions) in the eyes of our princes, yet will I be no slaue to my owne thoughtes (like a Parasite) to flatter thée in euils, wherein I shall finde thee worthy of reprehension.

If I spy any blemishes on thy body, I will lay euen my finger vpon them (not to haue them hidden but discouered) and whatsoeuer I doe or say, take it not thou, as done in scorne or in thy dishonour, but as out of the office, of integrity, zeale, & hawty affection of an honest friend. For wee two haue reason to assist one another with all the faculties and powers that are within vs, sithence, no calamitie can fall vpon the one, but the other must receiue many bruises by it.

Noble thou art of byrth, as my selfe am, for from two seuerall kings had we both our beings. Noble is thy bringing vppe as is thy raising to high fortunes. Such therefore as thou arte, woulde I haue thée still to beare thy selfe, and not to be deiected into vulgar, low, & earthlie prostitutions, for any threatninges or any blowes of insulting Fortune. Well did it become the greatnes of thy place, thy state and calling, not to be throwne downe into a womanish softnes, for that aged and reuerend (but* wry-necked) sonne of thine, whose worthinesse thou hast sufficientlie proclaimed.

*Charing Crosse.

Miseries that fall vpon vs by our owne wilfulnes, or by others Tyranny, are to be grieued at, because wee suffer

fer iniustly: But stroakes ý are ineuitable, are to be receaued, yea, to bee met and stood vnder with a most constant and resolued fortitude.

His downefall, though it seeme great, yet is it not to be lamented, but to be borne, because he fell not vpon a dishonorable Graue; But into such a one, as by the frailety of Time, Nature, and destiny, was prearrayned for him. His end was not like the end of Traytors, who are cut off in the pride of their blood and youth, or as the end of Citties, that reuolt from the obedience of their Soueraignes, and haue their Obloquies growing vp still, euē in their Ashes: But he threw himselfe vppon the earth, seeing the hand of extreame age (which must pull downe at last the whole frame of this World) lay so hardly, and so heauily vppon him. Had his Ruine beene wrought by those terrible thunder-Clappes of ciuill Warre, when (in the raigne of King Stephen) all the Realme was in a flaming combustion of discord, kindled by Maud the Empresse, in the quarrell of Duke Henry (her Son,) Or had he been condemned in that mad Parliament held at Oxford, when the Barons of this Land (within fewe monthes after) first forced their King (Henry of that name the third) to take my Tower for his Sanctuary, and after tooke him prysoner with his Sonne, and many of his Nobility, at the battaile at Lewes. Or had he beene brought to slauery and confusion, as I my selfe (for all my strength of friendes and my owne greatnesse) was likely to haue beene in two seuerall rebellions: The one in the raigne of Richard the second, by Essex men, who beheaded all men of Law, destroyed the Records and Monuments of Learning; tyranized ouer Straungers, and threatned to lead me and my Inhabitantes into Captiuity, and so bring vpon me vtter disolation. The other in those tempestuous and variable tossinges of that vertuous, but wretched King Henry the first, in the handes of Fortune, when a fire of commotion was kindled by Kentish-men, whose flames euen beganne to burne in my owne bosome.

Warres of the Barons in K. Stephens raigne.

Mad parliament at Oxford held by the Barons in 23. of Henry the third.

Rebellion in Essex by Wat Tyler.

Rebellion in Kent, Iack Caue.

Dissention of the two Families, Lancaster and Yorke.

Battaile on Palm sunday.

Do had that Sonne of thine perished betwéene the rage of those two great Families, (the Yorkists and Lancastrians,) that was nourished so many yéers together, with the liues, honors, and ouerthrowes of so many Princes of the bloud Royall, and with the fall of so many Subiects, that in one battaile were discomfited on both sides, 35111. Persons, then if thou hadst not lamented for him, I should worthily haue blamed thée, then would I my selfe haue borne a part in thy sorrow.

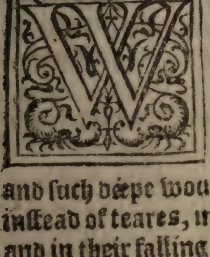
A better, and not so blacke a fate hath weighted vppon That Mirror of antiquity belonging to thee, than (euer since the first raysing) hath falne vpon the Goodliest, the Greatest, the Highest, and most Hallowed * Monument of mine. His miseries haue béene so many, and the top of his calamities is clymbed vp to such a height, that I should do his sorrows wrong, to set thē to the tune of my voyce, whē no notes but his owne are able to sing them forth. Lift vp therefore thy heauy head (O thou that art maintayned by the Pillers of the Church) and though thou hast a leaden countenance, of which may be gathered the true and full weight of that which lyes vppon thée to presse thée downe, yet with a voyce (lower then theirs that are daily Singers of heauenly songs in thy hearing,) ring thou forth the Allarum of those passionate heart-breaking vlulations, which (like the ruptures of Thunder) force a continuall passage through thy bosome. Bee thou attentiue likewise (thou Nurser vp of all our English Nobility) and as I haue lent an erected and serious eare to those Complaints which thou powrest forth in behalfe of thy Sonne, So be thou (I conjure thée) a silent and obseruing Auditor of these Lamentations, which I sée are already striuing to make way through the lips of this afflicted Child of mine. Marke him well, for now he begins.

*Pauls steeple

London speaking to Pauls steeple,

Paules

Paules Steeples complaint.



Herein? O wherein haue I (the most infortunate of all this Kingdome) offended so highly, that thus often, and with such dreadfull blowes, I shold be smote by the hand of heauen? So cruelly haue I beene strucke that euen fire (to my thinking) hath flashed out at mine eye: and such deepe woundes haue I receiued on my head, that instead of teares, my very battlements haue dropt downe, and in their falling haue scalded my cheekes, as if they had beene shewers of molten Lead. Doth this hot Vengeance fly (as if it were with the swiftest winges of Lightning) from aboue, to seize vpon me, for my owne sinnes, or for his, that first beganne to set me vppe? But alasse: How ingratefull am I, to haue of my Patron so vnrighteous, and so godlesse a remembrauncе? Ethelbert (King of Kent) was my Founder: out of the dust of the earth did he raise mee; out of the hard Rock was I fashioned to a beautifull shape, and by him consecrated to a most holy and religious vse: For Ethelbert (that good King) was the first that gaue entertainment to Augustine, Melitus, Iustus, and Iohn: who by Saint Gregory were sent hither to preach the Misteries Diuine: The deuotion of which men, like foure streames, caused the Christian Fayth to fly into this land, and that princely father of mee, was the first whom they conuerted.

The first bringers of the fayth into this Land.

In aduauncement of Religion, and to make it spread higher, did hee set mee into the earth, planted mee, and hadde a reuerend care to haue mee grow vppe in state and beauty. It cannot be therefore, that so good and meritorious a worke in him, should be so ill rewarded.

No, no, it is not for his sake, that I haue béene punnished, but eyther for my owne or some others wicked deserning.

Howsoeuer it be, or in whom soeuer the fault lyes, on mée are the plagues inflicted, on my head are heaped the disgraces and dishonours, mine is the smart, mine is the Sorrow. And though the eyes of euery Straunger, and of euery starting Passenger be cast vp vppon mee, all of them wondering at, but none pittying my misfortune, because to them it appeares sleight, or else it appeares to them nothing at all, yet let mee stand before a Iuditious, cléere, and impartiall Censor, and the condition of the most wretched will not séeme so miserable and base as mine.

When the Hawthorne and Low Briyer are cut downe, the spoyle of them is not regarded, for it moues not any: But when the Prince of the Forrest (the mighty and sacred Oake) hath the Axe layed to his roote, at euery blow that is giuen, the very woods send out Grones. Small Cottages beeing on fire, are quickly either quenched, or if not quenched, the wound that a Common-wealth receiues by them is easily cured: But when a body (so noble; So antient, so comely for Stature, so reuerenced for State, so richly adorned, so full of beauty, of strength, of Ceremonies: so followed, so kneeled vnto, and almost so adored as my selfe am, and euer haue béene daily) is defaced by flames, and shaken into dust by the wrath of the breath Almighty. The very sight of this is able to bréde Earthquakes in Citties that behold it.

And euen from such a height, such a happinesse, and such an honor am I fallen. My head was aduanced with the loftiest in the Kingdome, and so tender a care had the heauens ouer it, that it was taken vp and layde in the bosome of the Clouds.

My aking browes rested themselues vpon the Christall Chariot of the Moone, and the Crowne of my head (when I stode on Tiptoe and stretched my body to the length,)

touched

touched that Celestiall roofe, embossed all ouer with studs of golde, I did not onely ouer-loke the proudest buildinges in thée (O thou Land-lady to so many thousands of houses) with those also that are the inheritance of her thy next neybour: But mine eye at euery opening hadde the greatest part of the kingdome as a prospect.

The Marriner then called mee his Sea-marke, for to him I stood as a Watch-tower to guide him safely to our English shore. No sooner did ỳ Traueller by land sée me, but his heart leaped for ioy, and the wearisomnesse of his way séemed to go from him, because he knew he was in sight of the most godly Cittie which he loued. But how often hath this glory of mine bin Ecclipsed, and at such times when it was in the fulnesse whether my own ambition (in aspyring to high) or whether the Justice of those aboue mee in punnishing my pride, were the cause of my Fall, I know not. But sure I am, that my head hath beene often laid to the blocke, and many blowes giuen to strike it off.

The first blow was *giuen me when I had stood vntaynted, and vnblemished 477. years after the beginning of my foundation, for I was raised, and intituled to the name & honour of a Temple, about the yeare after the Incarnation 610. And in the yeare of Redemption, 1087. was I, (with a great parte of thy body (O thou Bell of Cities) consumed in Fyre. But I was in a shorte time healed of those hurts by Mauritius* (thy Bishop) who to defend me from after-burnings, mounted me vpon Arches & gaue me ribs of stone, which was fetched from Cane in Normandy.

Frée from the malice (at least from the strokes) of ruinating Time and the enuious *blasts of Fortune, did I continue full 357. yeares together after this first blowe, but in Anno 1444. heauen smote me with lightning, yet did I presently recouer, and held vppe my heade loftier then before, * for in Anno 1462. did my body carry in heigth 520. foot, the stone worke being 260. foot and the Spire as many. In length was I 720. foot, and in breadth 130. At the same

*pauls church buildedabout the year after Christ 610, & about 477. yeares after was consumed by fire 1087 in the time of Willis Conqueror.

*Mauritius repayred it & new-built it of stone.

* 1444 in the raign of Henry 6, Burnt with lightning.

*The description of the Steeple when it was at the Heigth, & of the body of the church as it is now.

time, did I weare on the Crowne of my head (as if hadde bin a Crest vnto it) a Cocke or Eagle, which beeing inconstant was (I thinke) destroyed for turning about with euery winde: It carryed in weight forty poundes, being of copper gilded ouer: the length from the bil to the taile four foote, the breadth ouer the wings, three foote, and a halfe, the crosse (from the bole to the Eagle) fifteene foote, and fire ynches of a size, the length thereof ouer-thwarte, was fiue foote, and ten ynches. The compasse of the bole nine foote and one ynch: of which crosse (which stood aboue my head as a rich Diadem) the inner part was Oke, the next couer was lead, and a third (vppon that) of copper, which with the bole and Eagle (being of Copper also) were al gilded ouer.

In this magnificence was I arrayed, thus was I with Marble Towers and Pynnacles crowned: the wonder of the world was I counted in the iudgement of all eyes that beheld mee, and the onely marke that enuie of foraigne kingdomes shot at, who did but heare of my Greatnes.

But (alacke) how momentary is all earthly happinesse? Howe fading is our painted Glory? Many yeares were not numbred, but behold in Anno, 1561. the hand of Heauen was once more filled with vengeance, which in clouds of fire, was there throwne vpon my heade, so that in lesse than the space of foure houres, I that was the Pirrhor of the world (for beauty) was made the miserablest creature in the worlde by my deformity. Yet did that worthy and my euer to be honoured Mistris *bestow vpon me in Gold 1000. Markes to make good my losses, and gaue (besides) warrant for a 1000. loades of Timber, to repayre my ruines: Thy Cittizens likewise (O my dearest mother) and the Cleargy of the Lande, were euen Prodigall of their purses to set me vp againe.

1561 in the raigne of Q. Elizabeth fyred by lightning 4. of Iu:

Q. Elizabeth gaue 1000 marks in gold to reedifie the Church

Some good was done vnto mee, and much good lefte vndone.

This last blow was to mee fatall and deadly, for now,

am

am I both headlesse, and honourlesse: my shoulders being daily troden vpon in scorne, branded with markes and Letters, and scoared vppon with the points of knives and Bodkins, which howsoever the ignorant laugh at, those that are wise know they are Characters of my infamy, yea to so low a state am I brought, that madmen and fooles, & euery vile companion lay wagers in mockery, onely to abuse mee. Some (seeing me so patient to endure Crowes and Dawes) pecking at my ribs, haue driuen tame Partridges ouer my bosome, others euen riding ouer me, and Capring vpon my backe, as if they had bin curbetting on the horse, which in despight they brought to Trample vpon me.

8 Partridges on the top o Powles in an 1597

A horse there likewise in An. 1600

Who therefore that did but eyther knowe or hath but heard of my former prosperity, would not greeue to see mee fallen into this basenes, and most contemptible bondage, but I haue deserued (I confesse) I haue most iustly deserued to haue these afflictions, these dishonours, and these open punnishmentes layde vppon mee, albeit they were tenne times numbred ouer and ouer.

For whereas I was at first consecrated to a misticall & religious purpose (the Ceremonies of* which are daily obserued in the better part of me, for my hart is euen to this hower an Altar vpon which are offred the sacrifices of holy prayers for mens Sinnes) yet are some limbes of my venerable bodie abused, and put to prophane, horrid and seruile customes, no maruell though my head rotte, when the bodie is so ful of diseases: no maruell if the Diuine Executioner cut mee off by the shoulders, when in my bosom is so much horrible and close Treason practised against the King of the whole world.

The quyre in which is diuine service twice euerie day in the yeare.

The bodie of the Church serues onely for walkes

For albeit though I neuer yet came downe all my prayres, to bee an Occuler witnesse-bearer of what I Speake, and what is (sometimes spoake openly, and sometimes spoke in priuate) committed in my Walkes, yet dooeth the daily sounde and Eccho of much knauish

The walks in Paules

villanis

villany strike vp into mine eare. What whispering is there in Terme times, how by some slight to cheat the poore country Clients of his full purse that is stucke vnder his girdle? What plots are layde to furnish young gallants with readie money, which is shared afterwards at a Tauern) therby to distinguish him of his patrimony? what buying vp of oaths, out of the hands of knightes of the Post, who for a few shillings doe daily sell their soules? What layinge of heads is there together and sifting of the brains, still and anon, as it growes towardes eleuen of the clocke, (euen amongst those that wear guilt Rapiers by their sides) where for that noone they may shift from Duke Humfrey, & bee furnished with a Dinner at some meaner mans Table? What damnable bargaines of vnmercifull Brokery, & of vnmeasurable Vsury are there clapt vp? What swearing is there: yea, what swaggering, what facing and out-faking? What shuffling, what shouldering, what Justling, what Jæring, what byting of Thumbs to beget quarels, what holding vppe of fingers to remember drunken meetings, what brauing with Feathers, what bearding with Mustachoes, what casting open of cloakes to publish new clothes, what muffling in cloaks to hyde broken Elbows, so that when I heare such trampling vp and downe, such spetting, such halking, and such humming, (euery mans lippes making a noise, yet not a word to be vnderstoode,) I verily beléeue that I am the Tower of Babell newly to be builded vp, but presentlie despaire of euer beeing finished, because there is in me such a confusion of languages.

For at one time, in one and the same ranke, yea, foote by foote, and elbow by elbow, shall you see walking, the Knight, the Gull, the Gallant, the vpstart, the Gentleman, the Clowne, the Captaine, the Appel-squire, the Lawyer, the Vsurer, the Cittizen, the Bankerout, the Scholler, the Begger, the Doctor, the Ideot, the Ruffian, the Cheater, the Puritan, the Cut-throat, the Hye-men, the Low-men, the True-man, and the Thiefe: of all trades & professions

some,

some, of all Countryes some; And thus dooth my middle Isle shew like the Mediterranean Sea, in which as well the Merchant hoyses vp sayles to purchace wealth honestly, as the Rouer to light vpon prize vniustly. Thus am I like a common Mart where all Commodities (both the good and the bad) are to be bought and solde. Thus whilest deuotion kneeles at her prayers, doth prophanation walke vnder her nose in contempt of Religion. But my lamentations are scattered with the winds, my sighes are lost in the Ayre, and I my selfe not thought worthy to stand high in the loue of those that are borne and nourished by mee. An end therefore doe I make heare of this my mourning.

The Steeple of S. Paule abruptly thus breaketh off, because he felt himselfe not so well as he could wish; The Lady of Citties (who is gouerned by the wisedome of 24. graue Senators, all those 24. submitting themselues to the authority onely of One, * thereby teaching examples of Obedience) did thus breake silence, and renew her speech:

24. Aldermen L: Mayor.

Londons speech to westminster continued.

Tell me now (O Westminster) which of Vs two, haue greatest cause to complaine for the misfortune of our sons; yet thou and I are not indifferent Iudges in this case, because it is our owne particuler: let vs therefore leaue the censure of it to the Arbiterment of the world; and whilest the Controuersie is in deciding, bee not thou offended wō me, if now a litle I take vpon me the office of a Mother, & fall into a gentle reprehension of thee. I remember, that when thou haddest layd abroad the Ruines of thy Sonne, and yet on the top of them haddest builded vp his honors, which to doe, did in thee seeme glorious; thou diddest then presently beginne to rip open the adulterous Wombe of those sinnes that are every day begotten vnder thy roofes: the very naming of which, though it be odious to heauen and earth: yet diddest thou seeme to haue so little feeling of thine owne infamy, that thou diddest laugh at thy dishonor, and wert it not sory for those quilles which thou thy selfe confessest, abundantly swarme within thee.

O how palpable is thy blindnesse! How grosse thine ignorance, in running into this errour! What vpholdeth Kingdomes but gouernement? What subuerteth licentiousnesse and disorder? Vices in a common-wealth are as diseases in a body, if quickly they be not cured, they suddenly kill. They are Weedes in the fayrest Garden, if eare they take roote, you pull them not vp: they spoyle the wholsome Hearbes and Flowers, and turne the Ground into a Wildernesse. There is no destruction so fearefull to a Citty, as that destruction which a Citty brings vpon it selfe: and neuer is it more néere a fall, then when it maketh much of those sins, which like Snakes lie in the bosome of it, and sucke out the bloud.

Cities sooneſt destroy themselues.

All those Cankers of a State, that lye gnawing to eate thée vppe; All those sensuall streames, that flow about thy body, and labour to drowne it in impieties, flowe in thy Veynes, but as little Riuolets, but in mine they exceede all bounds, and swell vppe to an Ocean. And that the very leaf of them vnderminetb and shaketh my strongest buildings.

The sinnes of London.

What abhomination reigneth in thée, which is not in me doubled? If Pride rise vp and downe in thy Coaches, She is all the forenoone at her Glasse in my priuate chambers, and in the after noone sits like a prostituted Harlot, tempting Passengers to the Stalles of my Inhabitantes. If Vsurers (who are Christiã Iews) dwell in thy streets; I haue both Vsurers and Brokers, (who are the English Deuils) opening shoppes in mine. Dooth thou bring vppe Swearers, I can sweare thée downe? Art thou Quarrelsome? I thirst after bloud? Is there any one in thée that scoffes at Religion? Many there are in mee that sweare there is no Religion.

First Pride.

Vsury Brokery

Periury. Murder Atheisme

As for that Monster with many heades, that Beast, (both Male and Female) I meane Letchery, it is within my Freedome more made of, then Iland Dogges are amongest Cittizens Wiues: and when it gets out of my free-

Letchery

frædome, it is then like the place where it desires to lurke in, for then it lyes out of the cricuite of all ciuill Liberty.

In the troublesome reigne of King Stephen, there were shewed at one musker twenty thousand armed Horsemen, and threescore thousand Footemen, all which number were Cittizens that liued within my walles: But I verily beleeue, that in this peaceable reigne of our Princes in these dayes, if a true musker were taken, there would be found almost as many Strumpets as would bee able to dare the Turke. (with all his Concubines) into the field, or to ouer-runne all the Lowe Countries, and to spoyle the enemy, were he neuer so strong or desperate, if it came to handy-gripes.

Beastes in their Act of generation vse not more community: sauage people that know not their Maker, breake not more the limites of Modesty: Common Iuglers, Fiddlers, and Players, doe not more basely prostitute themselues to the pelasures of euery two-penny drunken Plebeian, than doe those Quadrantariæ Meretrices, the Mercenary Hackneies that stand at racke and manger within my suburbes.

As Buls and Beares are for small pieces of Siluer to be bayted, so are these. As at common Outropes, when households-stuffe is to bee sold, they cry Who giues more, So stand these vppon their thresholdes, not crying Who giues more, (only) but Who giues any thing. But that it stands not with the Maiesty of our state, nor with the Lawes of our Religion, It were as good, nay better, to giue frædom and liberties to the setting vp of a cõmen Stewes, as heretofore on the Banck (opposite to thée and me on the farther side of the Thames) it hath bæne vsed.

In those dayes Orders were established to kéepe this Sin within certaine boundes, but now it breakes beyond all limits.

It was then enacted by a parliament (at which thou y

hath had thy voyce in so many Parliaments wert present) that the Bordello or common Stewes on the Bancke-side, should obserue these constitutions.

Orders for the Stewes

First, no Stew-holder, or his wife was to compell any single Woman to stay with them against her will, but to giue her leaue to come and go at her pleasure.

Our suburb Bawdes keepe ordinaries for all commers

Secondly, that no Stew-holder should keepe any Woman to board, but shee to boord abroad, or where shee lyked.

* The price of sin is rayſed, & so are the rents.

Thirdly, to take for a Courtezans* Chamber not aboue 14. pence by the weeke.

* *Noctes atque dies now.*

Fourthly, not to keepe open doores * vpon Holy-dayes.

Officers now haue siluereies and canot see.

Fiftly, not to keepe any single woman in his house on the Holy-dayes, but the Bailiffe to see them voyded out of the Lordship.

Few Turne-coates in houses of this Religion.

Sixtly, that no single woman should be detayned in any such house against her wil, hauing an intent to forsake that course of life.

Aswell Puritane as Protestant are welcome.

Seauenthly, that no Stew-holder was to giue entertainment to any Woman of any order in Religion, or to any mans wife.

Now they work like Bakers night and day.

Eyghtly, that no Courtezan was to receiue hire of any man to lye with him, but she was to lye all night with him till the next morning.

Now they vse plaine dealing

Ninthly, that no man was to be drawne by violence, or be inticed by any impudent and whorish allurements into any Stew-house.

They are searched daily.

Tenthly, that every Brothely or Stew-house was to bee searched weekely by Constables, and other Officers.

Iamque vrit flaminame dultu.

Lastly, That no Stew-holder should lodge in hys house any Woman that had the daungerous infirmity of burning, &c.

These (amongst others) with penalties and punishments vppon the breach of any one of them, were the ordinances of these times, but nowe (thankes to the negligence of this age) though sharper Lawes doe threaten to strike,

this

this sinne, yet they do but threaten, for they seldom strike, or if they strike, it is with the backe of the sworde of Iustice.

The setting vp of a Whore-house, is now as common as the setting vp of a Trade: yea, and it goes vnder that name. A flocke of two beds and foure wenches is able to put a Lady Pandaresse into present practise, and to bring them into reasonable doings.

In these shoppes (of the worlde, the flesh and the deuill) soules are set to sale, and bodies sent to shipwracke: men and women as familiarly goe into a chamber to damne one another on a Feather-bedde, as into a Tauerne to bee merrie with wine. But for al this it goes vnder the name of The sweet sin, and of all, they are counted Wenches of the old Religion, and for all their dancings in Tauernes, rpots in Suppers, and ruffling in Taffities, yet A cloyster of such Nunnes standes like a Spittle, for euery house in it is more infectious then that which hath a Redde Crosse ouer the dore. Such as Smithfield is to horses, such is a House of these Sisters to women: It is as fatal to thē, It is as infamous. The Bawds Pettie Bawds, and Panders are the Horse-coursers that bring Iades into the market: wher they swear they are free from diseases, whē they haue more hanging on their bones then are in a French Army; and that they are but Coltes of halfe a years running, when they haue scarse a sounde teeth in their heades. There shall you find beastes of all ages, of all Colours, of all prices, of all paces, yet most of them gyuen to false gallops: hardly among twenty one that is good, for euery one that proues so, a hundred continue bad.

Such is the quality of Smithfield Nags, such the property of Suburbe Curtizans. In briefe, their beginning is bruinery, their end beggery, their life is detestable, & death (for the most part) damnable. Since therefore so dangerous a Serpent shootes his ranckling stinges into both our bosomes, let vs not (as desperate of our owne estates) open

our breſts to receiue them, and ſo be guilty to our own deſtruction, but rather prouide vs of Armor to reſiſt the malice of her poyſon, for be aſſured (O thou that art ſtill ready, and ſtill moſt woorthy to entertaine forraygne Princes and Embaſſadors) that ſo long as this double-dealing-diuell, (Lechery) walks vp and down in our houſes, Vengeance will neuer be driuen from our doores.

A little more muſt I yet chyde thée (O thou Minion, now to Two mighty Nations) for I begin to growe Ielious of thée, that thou ſeekeſt to rob mee of my beſt, my moſt worthy, moſt Princely, and my moſt deſired* Louer, to enioy him ſolely to thy ſelfe: elſe wherefore doſt thou repine that either I, or any other of our Siſter citties, ſhould be made happy by his company? It ſhewes that thy heart is ſtuffe with a rancke and boyling enuie, thou greueſt that any ſhould proſper but thy ſelfe. It condemnes thee of ambition, (which ſinne thou thinkeſt becomes thée, becauſe thou art a Courtier) It condemnes thée of Couetouſnes, a vyce, than which none more vily blemiſheth a noble mind, (ſuch as all Nations that haue bin thy Gueſts, haue neuer ſuppoſed to ſhine in thée.) I eſteeme my ſelfe the moſt Fortunate of all my neighbour Citties in this large kingdome, if That Royall Maiſter of vs both (nay of vs all) doe but vouchſafe to paſſe by mee, or but ſo much as to caſt his eie vpon me, and doſt thou cry out Thou art vndone, when after his embracings of thée ſo many whole moneths (oftentimes) together, after his beſtowing ſo many dignities, and ſo much wealth vpon thée: yea, and when hee giues thée his Royall word, not to be abſent from thée long? cannot this content thée, and ſatiſfie the flame of thy deſyres, but that thou muſt wiſh to haue him fonde ouer thée, and that the beams of his moſt princely and free affection, ſhuld haue all their points méete in thy boſome, as their onelie fixed Obiect? for ſhame deſire it not, for this immoderate appetite of thine is to the diſhonour and hurt of al the Citties roand about thee. Bridle therfore theſe paſſions of thy

King Iames.

ſouls

soule, which otherwise will make thée turne wild, and with them by gentle meanes to come in, and subiect themselues to the lawes of Reason. If the moyst-handed *Isis, should send all her melted Siluer to that insearchable and vnknowne Treasury of Neptune, (into which all Riuers pay their custome) and shoulde neuer haue an profitable Returne of it, how sone would she grow poore? Or if the Sea-god, (out of a prodigal and flowing humor) should do nothing but pour his gifts into the lappe of that his Christall bosom daughter, how sone would her swimming too hie in riches, make her forget her selfe: and in that pride of swelling, worke the subuersion both of thée and me? we should lye drowned in her greatnes, as other partes of the land would bee ouerwhelmed in thyne, if thou haddest what thou desirest and couetest.

The Thames who takes the name from Thame & Isis

But thou sée'st the Sunne neuer tarries in one poynt of heauen alone, his remouing from place to place, shewes his Soueraignty, and makes him better welcome thither, where hee hath beene the longest absent, and euen so of Kinges.

A Cittizen of mine (to his immortall memory) dyd in one day, feast at his Table Foure Kings (Viz) Edwarde the third (king of England) Iohn King of France, Dauid le Bruce, king of Scots, and the king of Cyprus, and now of late (imitating that example) did another of my Præters, * feast (tho not foure kinges) one equal in power, in Maiesty and in Dominion, to all these 4. (euen the Heyre and present Inheritor of 4. mighty Empires our soueraign Lord & maist. Iames the 6. To looke but backe vpon which happy daies (because I haue séene but few of thē) makes my hart beate against my ribbes for ioy: I am proud euen in the remembraunce of them, and to the intent they may neuer be forgotten, those yeares and months that brought forth this honor vnto me, shall be Chronicled in the midst of my bosome in Characters of Gold.

Hen. Pichard vintner, maior in An. 30. of Edward 3.

* Sir Iohn wats Clothworker Lord Mayor now this present yea, 1607

Thus do I comfort my selfe by repeating ouer ỳ blessings bestowed

bestowed vpon me by a few of our Princes, but how many of them haue feasted, banqueted and reuealed with thée: And yet wouldst thou barre any of them from taking hys pleasures abroad, but onely in thy presence. Thou arte proude, and takest vpon thée to stretch forth too imperious a hand.

Thou art contented to receiue in the Golden Harueſt, but loath to bee shaken with the breath of Autumne. Thou likest it well to haue a Summer all the yeare, but dost not consider, that Winter is as wholesome for thy body. This shewes thy indiscretion, thy improuidence, and indulgence of thy selfe, to bee pampered like an Epicure.

Thou art greedy as the Sea, and wouldest deuoure all thinges, but wouldst part from nothing: thou art catching as fire, so thy self mayst be fed, thou carest not who perish. Vncharitable are thy wishes, immodest are thy longings, and most vnconscionable are thy aspyrings, and most vnneighborly are thy fore-stallings. That which thou wouldest haue done, is not (I graunt) against all Law, but it is with All Law, for thou desirest to haue men go to Law all the yeare long, which wish of thine is as dishonest, as if it were to haue continuall warres, and continuall wars are continual Slaueries: It is as if thou shouldest wish to haue an euerlasting thunder, for what are pleadinges of causes, but noise without ceasing.

A paradox in praise of Vacations.

Thou sayest the foure Tearmes are vnto thée as foure great Feasts, yet dost thou in bitternes of thy sorrow, cry out vpon foure Vacations: wherein thou behauest thy selfe all one, as if thou shouldest complain, because thou art not euery houre feeding. If foure Tearmes should be without tearme and neuer come to an end, those feastes which they incite thée to, would be to their incurable surfeits, and so consequently thy destruction. If the sounde of Lawyers tongues were but one whole twelue month in thine eare, thou thy selfe wouldst euen loath it, tho it were vnto thee neuer so delicate Musicke.

Nothing

Nothing increaseth in vs as a delight in any pleasure, but to haue that pleasure taken away for a time. But that the night offends vs with darknes, we should grow weary of the day. So that foure Vacations (if thou canst rightly make vse of them) may be vnto thée as 4. seuerall sawces, to sharpen thy stomacke against those great feasts, are serued vp to thy Tables.

So goe to Law (I confesse) is necessary in a Republike; So is it to haue a Plague, for thereby the Superfluous numbers of people, which otherwise (if they increased) would deuoure one another, are swept away: So is it to haue War, for the Sword cuts off those idle branches that steale away the Sap from the profitable boughes of a Kingdome. But to haue a Warre without end, or a Plague without mercy, is the vndoing of a Realme, and so would it be if men were euer in brablings.

The 4. Vacations are like so many Soundings of Retreat after 4. Battailes; in which breathing-times men renew their courages, their forces, and their manners of fight: where (else) the Pleader (neuer giuing ouer) would grow to rich, and so bee enuied, and the client euer spending, would be made a Begger, and so gather into faction.

Vaine therefore, idle, senceleſſe, shapeleſſe, and of no validity are those Encomiasticke honors, with which thy rhetoricall cunning hath fethered a Pen so gaily. An Idoll hast thou made of it, whereas in the true nature it is a pyneon puld from the left wing of the deuill. A Pen! The inuention of that, and of Incke hath brought as many curses into the world, as that damnable Witch-craft of the Fryer, who tore open the bowels of Hell, to find those murdering engines of mankind, Guns and Powder. Inuectiue against a Pen.

Both these are alike in quality, in mischiefe: yea, and almost in fashion; The Pen is the Piece that shotes, Inck is the powder that carries, and Words are the Bullets that kill.

The one doth onely destroy men in time of warre, the other,

ther consumes men, both in warre and peace.

The one batters downe Castles, the other barters them away. Cedant Arma Togæ, let Guns therefore giue place to Gownes, for the Pen is the more dangerous weapon to run vpon.

Why then dooſt thou, nay, howe canſt thou without blushing defend a cause so notoriously badde? How dareſt thou hang a Tree so barren of goodneſſe, and so rancke of poyson at the roote, with so many Garlandes of prayses? Canſt thou find in thy heart to write Ealogies in honour of that deadly double pointed Engine, that hath bœn the confusion of so many thousands? Then let wreathes of Lawrell Crowne their Temples, that shall sing the dishonorable Acts of those Swords, which basely haue bœn inbrued in the bowels of their owne Countrey: for in what other tryumphes (then in the afflictions of men) are these warlike Instruments of writing imployed?

One dash of a Pen hath often bœne the downefall of a man and his posterity. By help of this, Wiues practise to abuse their Husbands, by the Witch-craft of Amorous passions, (which are conuard out of a Goose-quill,) Louers intice young wenches to folly. This is that which spreads abroad, and sowes the Sœdes of Schismes and Hereſies. This is that, which marres all Learning, and makes it contemptible, by making it common. It is the Weapon of a Foole, and oftentimes his braynes drop out of the end of it in stead of Incke. It is a sharpe Goade that pricke our young Gentry to beggery, for in leſſe than a quarter of an hower, (with a Pen) doe they betray all the Landes and liuings purchased by their progenitors, into the hands of Brokers Scriueners, and Vsurers.

What forren hand hath euer bœn working in the forge of Treason (for the deuastation of this Kingdome, for the extirpation of the Religion in it, or for the murdering of our Princes) But Pennes (like Hammers on an Anuile) haue continually bœne beating out the plottes, and conueying

neying them hither to bee made smooth, and to passe currant. What Libelles against Princes, against Peeres, against the State, or against our Magistrates, were euer (like pricking Thornes) thrust into the sides of this Empire, to make it bleed, of which a Pen was not guilty?

This, by leaning a word vnpoynted, was the death of Edward the second: with this, holding it but in his hand, did Richard the second giue away all the royalties belonging to a Crowne, and blotted out his owne name for euer any more to be found written with the name of a King.

The wordes were these, *Edwardum occidere nolite timere bonum est.*

In conclusion, the Tragedies of so many of our Ancient Nobility, were neuer acted on Scaffoldes, but a Pen was chiefe Actor in their deaths and downefals.

So then you may perceiue, that this Rauens bill drawneth blood where it once fastneth: The Iawes of a Toade (sweating & foaming out poyson) are not more dangerous than a Pen being filled with that banefull and venomous mixture of Gall and Copporas. Accursed therefore be that * Bird, out of whose wing, so pestilent and so malitious an enemie to humane creatures is taken: offensiue to the stomacke, be for euer the meat of it, and apt to engender mortall surfeits sithence so small a part of it (as a Quill.) hath bred from the beginning, and (til the dissolution of this Vniuersall Frame) will be the cause of so much distemperature in the body of the World. Which mischiefe that worthy Romaine Captain, who (about the eight yeere of the raigne of Cassibelan, Brother to King Lud (my first Founder and 54 yeeres before the King, both of Heauen and earth, sent his Sonne to dwell amongst men) entred this Land, conquered it, & made it tributary to the people of Rome, wisely looking into, and obseruing, that Princes, Rulers, and Great personages, must of necessity (being bound thereto by the ceremony of their birth, or by their place in the state) yeeld sometimes to that, which otherwise ý noblenes of their owne blood would abhor, did often wish that he could not know how to handle a Pen.

* A Goose.

Iulius Cæsar, 54. yeeres before Christ, conquered Brittaine.

And that Mirror of her Sexe, both for magnanimity of minde, inuincibleneſſe of Spirit, and (which is to her the greateſt part of her fame) for the cloſing vppe of ſo long a raigne, with ſo full and ſo grieuous a period, that Goddeſſe vpon earth whileſt ſhe lined, that our Good Miſtris (Eliza) when ſhee was to ſigne any warrant for the death of any Peere, would paſſionately (yet with a Spirit equal to Cæſars) ſay thus, Would to God wee had neuer beene taught how to write.

And thus (O thou that ſitteſt crowned like an Empreſſe) withall our riches and faireſt Monuments haue I diſcharged the Office of a faithfull ſeruitor, by telling thée what part of thy goodly body is builded too high, wherein my Counſell is that thou ſhouldeſt a little plucke downe thy Pryde And in what other part thou ſtandeſt too low, where I could wiſh thée to raiſe it vp to a more noble Eminence. I haue likewiſe pointed with my finger, at al thoſe Cracks, diſioyntings, Flawes, and Flyings out, which if they bee not repayred, are able in time to ſhake into duſt a Citty greater then thy ſelfe: And (in my Reall Iſſue to thée) haue I ſcored ſuch plaine markes vpon thy hidden Ruines, which (like Treacherous Seruants) receiue in ſtormes (for euer to vnde thée) that if in any fit ſeaſon, thou vnderpropp them, and take down whatſoeuer is amiſſe, thou ſhalt in this thy old age growe ſtrong and luſty againe, and with an eaſie Reſt ſaue thy ſelfe from Falling.

With a free and vn-mercenary voyce, haue I pleaded for thy good, by diſcouering what is ill in thée: ſo that my Lectures of Reprehention may ſerue as wholeſome Councell. Than canſt not blame me for opening thy woundes, and ſearching them to the quick, ſithence thou ſeeſt I ſpare not mine owne. My pills perhaps may ſeeme a little bitter in going downe, but in the working thou ſhalt finde them as comfortable as Reſtoratiues.

Take courage therefore to thee, and like a Prince that can commaund his owne affections (which is the Nobleſt

Soueraignty

raignty, be bold not onely to strike off those sicke and infected parts, about the body of the Weale-publicke, whych threaten daunger to those that are sounde, but also applie thou the same sharp medicines, which I haue ministred to thee, if hereafter (as I often feele my self) thou perceiuest me ready or subiect to fall into loathsome diseases.

We are now both of vs as Buildings belonging to one Land-lorde, so closely ioyned together in league, that the world thinkes it a thing impossible, by any violence, vnlesse we fall to ciuill discention within our selues, euer to be seperated: our handes as if it were at a marriage, are plighted one to another: our bodies are still embracing, as if they were Twinnes: wee are growne so like and euerie day doe more and more so resemble each other that many who neuer knew vs before, wouldes sweare that we were all One.

Sithence then we are held to be so, let vs neuer bee taken to be otherwise. But as sisters do, if the one feel sorrow let the other mourne, if the one bee lifted vp to honors, let not the other repine. And as stringes to an instrument, tho we render seuerall soundes, yet let both our soundes close vp in sweet concordant Musicke. Arme thy selfe therefore (with Mee) to maintaine that Vnion, without whych Realmes are builded vpon sande, and On whych they are stronger then if they stood vpon Rockes.

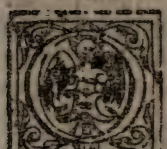
And because al Citties were bound in common ciuility, in pollicie, and in honour to maintaine their Names, their Callings, their Priuiledges, and those Ancient houses that Spring out of them, I wil in thy presence Annatomize my selfe, euen from head to foot, thou shalt know euery limbe of me, and into how many parts my bodie is deuided. My birth, my bringing vp, and my rising shall bee as manifest to thy vnderstanding as to mine, because by the willful ignorance of those that ought of duety to preserue my credit, my good name is oftentimes and in many places abused & taken from me.

Neither would I haue thée account mee insolent, vainglorious, or ambitious, in erecting these Trophyes of Fame to my selfe, with mine owne hands: for vpon them shall neither be ingrauen the Acts of my sumptuous Builders, (which would be to great an ostentation) nor the battels which my Citizens haue oftentimes fought and won in defence of my liberties, which (more to my glory) might be rehearsed by others.

But passing ouer the Names of some (which to repeate would be to me an euerlasting renown). As to boast (which lawfully & without the blot of arrogance I could doe) that Constantine the Emperor ye builder Constantinople, drew his breath from my bosome, or that Maud the Empresse, did honour to me as to the mother that gaue her life. or that King Henry (son to Henry 2.) was begotten in my womb, which Henry at the age of 7. years was marrie to Marg. (ye French kings daughter) being not two years old, & afterwards with her in the life time of his father, were crowned at Winch. But burying this glory of mine (to be forgotten) in the Graues where these my children lye (now consumed to nothing) I will onely content my selfe (& it is but a poore ambition) to tell thée how I came to be called a Citty.

Constantine the Emperor Mawd the Empresse, and Henry son to Henry 2 born in London.

By what Names London from time to time hath bin called, and how it came to bee diuided into Wardes.



Seruе me therefore (O my most ingenious Pupill and scorne not to call me thy Tutor) for I must heere and there speake of some matters, that I was an Eye-witnesse to, long before thou hadst any being. Kno thē (because time) who alters all things, may perhaps hereafter as hee hath done already, giue me some other new vpstart name) that Brute from whom I tooke my birth, after he had

had brought me (as thou sest to this day I abide) close to the Ryuer of Thames, did there bestow a Name on me, & called me Troynouane or Trinouane, and sometimes Trinobant, to reuiue (in me) the memory of that Citty which was turned into Cinders, and that for all the spight of those Gods who hated it, there should be a new Troy which was my selfe.

The Name of London.

That was the style by which I was knowne, for the space of more than one thousand years, and then Lud challenging me as his owne, tooke away none of my dignities, but as women marryed to great persons, loose their old names, so did I mine being wedded to that king, and (after himselfe) was crowned with the Title of Laire-lud, that is to say, the Citty of Lud or Ludstone, vpon which some nations cald me London.ũ or Longidinũ. & Laodinũ, others Lundayne, the Saxons Londonceaster, and Londonbridge. The Spaniardes Londra, the French Londres, and nowe in these dayes the people of our owne countrey, London.

In my Infanticising was I but of base and meane estimation amongest other Citties, and was scarcelis knowne for all I was the Daughter of a king. But Ludde lifted mee vppe to high honours and greate aduauncementes, for hee set a Coronet of Towers vppon my heade, and although it were not beautifull for Ornament, yet made he for me a Cyrcle, strong for defence, which being made of Turffe and other such stuffe, trenched rounde about, serued in the Nature of a Wall or Rampyre, to keepe and defende off the assaulting enemies.

Lud made a wall about Lond[illegible] of Turfe &c, but the Romains caused it to be made of stone.

Afterwardes the Romaynes beeing the Lordes of the whole Kingdome, and so consequently of mee, instead of throwing mee into seruile Slauery, rayled mee vppe to high dignity and honour, and whereas I trembled wyth feare to haue my buildinges flaming about mine eares, they

they adorned my body, and apparrelled it rounde about with stone, for til the arriuall of that warlike and industrious Nation on our shores, the Brittons dwelt in Towns as basely builded, as those now of the wild Irish.

The seuerall Nations that conquered this land frō time to time

After I was thus fashioned and refined into the ciuill and beautifull shape of a City, I began to be courted, and to be the onely Minion of the Land, the Romaines fought in my quarrell, the Brittons heaped vpon me honours, the Saxons (that draue out them) bound Garlands of victorye about my forehead.

But these being beaten from my company by the Danes, I was by them spoyled of all my Ornamentes, and prostituted as a strumpet to the lust of ciuill discord. In heate of which the Normans came in rescue, chased hence ỳ Danes reconered the whole Empyre, and reduced it into one Monarchy. From that day haue I euer since flourished, euer since haue I swelled vp in greatnes, euer since haue I bin loued of our kings, because euer since haue to our kinges bin loyall.

How London cam to be deuided into Wards.

In which prosperous growing vp of mine, all my boughes and my branches, haue more and more in stead of bearing fruit, bin replenished with multitudes of peoples, whose numbers increasing, it was thoght fit (in policy) that they should be quartered like Souldiers into bands, the better to bring them into order. According therfore to the Romans custome of Citties, was I diuided into certaine Signories, all of them notwithstanding, like so many streames to one Head, acknowledging a priority and subiection, to One, Greater than the rest, and who sith aboue them, these Diuisions or Partages are called Wardes, or Aldermanries, being 26 in number, which are ciuilly guarded and wisely prouided, for by 24. Aldermen, in whom is represented the dignity of Romaine Senatours, and of Two Sheriffes, who personate (in their Offices and places) the Romane Consuls.

Then is there a Subdiuision, for these Greater Cantles

are againe cut into lesse, being called Parishes, which are in number 109. which are vnto me like so many little Cities within themselues: so beautifyed they are with buildings, & furnished with mannuall Trades, so peopled with wealthy Cittizens, and so pollitikely, wisely, and peaceably gouerned.

These things are aswell knowne to thée, as to my selfe, which notwithstanding I am willing to repeate ouer, because that both of vs calling to minde, the greatnesse of our byrthes, and casting our eyes on the state and flourishing glory, wherein we haue alwayes carryed our selues, our missfortunes may be the more pittyed (at the hands of forren Citties, who may fall into the like) séeing the present condition, in which wee nowe stand. For (alacke!) What auayles it vs to boast of our former strength, of our beauties, of our honours, of our possessions, or of the Riches wherein we flow, when that wee cannot inioy our healthes, which is worth all these; Sicknesse hath dwelt a long time in thy Chambers, she doth now walke still in a ghostly and formidable shape vppe and downe my stréets. Shee (with her Ill Company) infecteth my Sonnes and Daughters, and leades them dayly into such daungers, that (in hundreds at a time) doe they loose their liues. Fiue yéares hath shee beene a troublesome Guest vnto me; I receiued her at first, (though I loued not her Company) yet I géue her good entertainement, and patiently endured her insulting ouer mee and mine, because I knew shée was a Messenger sent from aboue.

Londons cõplaint about the Plague.

But woe to mee (infortunate Citty!) Woe vnto vs both (O my distressed Neighbour,) shall wee neuer shake handes with her and part? Shall our faire bodies neuer recouer of this Disease, which so often and often hath run all ouer them, and doth nowe againe beginne to bee as a plague vnto vs? Howsoeuer (out of the fashion of Conference, or out of a pride to shew my wit) I haue checkt thée for deiecting thy Spirits for any stroakes of calamity, yet

be-

beléeue me, the care that I haue of my Children, whom I see drooping, Conquers the height of my minde, subdues my Nature, and makes me (with sorrow) almost lie groueling on the ground. Dead vnto vs both, are our liueliest dayes, whilest this pestilent vapour hanges over our heades: Dead are our pleasures, for wee do now take delight in nothing but in mourning: Dead are our houres of leysure, and those which are full of businesse: yea euen the Lawe it selfe, (of whose presence wee both are glad, because wee gayne by her, and because shee euer bringes vs good and merry Company to cheere our hearkes) will sitte heauily in thy Courts of Iustice, nay, I feare shee will bee vnwilling (seeing vs so subiect to diseases) to sit there at all.

Many a sad & black Tearme hath bin seen walking in thy Hall, (like a Mourner) and I perceiue by thy lookes, thou art now in feare to bee troubled with the like. I cannot blame thee, neither will I chide thee, for I purpose to be as great with griefe as thy selfe. Neyther if that Blacke and Ominous day so happen and fall vpon vs, shall I wonder: For I cannot see, how the Diuine Vengeance should bee driuen back, since so many bold darings are giuen, forcing it to breake through the gates of heauen.

The shaking of the Rodde is not thought of, the stripes moue vs not, the very drawing of blood, is by some but made a mockery: to proue it I will recite vnto thee (though to tell it, my buildinges will shake at the very horrour of the same) A story of death, both true and new. And this it is.

One (vppon whom I had but lately bestowed the Title and Dignity of a Cittizen) of whome I had good hope, cause I found him worthy him to bee aduanced, taking his last leaue of mee (as since it hath falne out) departed to that quarter of the Land, to which from all other partes men in multitudes repayre, to sucke the sweetenesse of honest gaynes, and so to increase theyr wealth.

A description of Sturbridge fayre.

It

It is a place, where (is a large fielde) a Citty as it were is in a fewe dayes builded vppe, and so quickely rayſed, as if it had beene done by Enchantment, and in as few dates is it afterwardes pulled down, no memory remayning of it, not no monument to ſhewe that there it ſtoode: though whilſt the earth beareth it vppe, there be Fayre ſtreetes, ſo filled with people, that they ſeeme to bee paued euen with the feete of men: whileſt on eyther ſide, ſhops are ſo furniſhed and ſet forth with all rich and neceſſary commodities, that many comming thyther, haue taken that place for my ſelfe, and haue not ſtucke to call it by the name of Little London, ſo like do they ſweare it hath been vnto me, both in face and faſhion of body.

Thither went this young Sonne of mine, and there miſtaking the place, for me, layed downe his head, as thinking it had beene my boſome, but neuer lifted it vp againe. A token had hee ſent from heauen, by which hee was bidden to make haſt thither, hee obeyed the bringer of it, and in pawne of his ſoule that was gone of the iourney, left hee his cold body behind.

The death of a young man a linnen Draper dwelling in Friday-ſtreet.

To keepe which ſafe, Two fellowes were hyred to hide it in the earth, they did ſo, vſing the body, as Souldiers do Townes which are taken, they rifled it, of all that belonged vnto it, and what al men elſe were affraid to touch or come neere, did they (being armed with the deſire of money) nimbly, and Jocundly packe vppe, intending at their comming home to ſhare it.

The two Porters of London.

No ſooner had they diſpatched their deadly buſines, but thoſe that had Authoritie of the place, and who made much of theſe two Sharkers before, when they ſtoode in neede of their helpe, make nowe as much haſt as they can, to ridde them out of their company: Away therefore like Pedlers from the ende of a Fayre, ſo doe they ſend them away trudging.

The Town looked euen ſick ſo long as they were in it,

It was a killing to any Countrey-fellowe to have looked vppon them, if hee had but heard what parts in this black Tragedy of death they had played. And both of them being Porters, were taken by reason of their white Frocks, for two Ghosts walking in white Shirts: to have drunk with these Pot-tossers hadde beene no way but one, to haue solde any drinke to them, had bene for a Tapster to haue drunke his lasse: nay, whosoeuer did but spy them 12. score off, or were but told that two such Rauens (who preied vppon a dead body) flew that way, cryed presently out, Lord haue mercy vppon vs, clapping their hard handes on their Country-breastes, and looking more pale then the sheete in which the man was buryed.

But the best was these Partners, (that dealt in such a a dead commodity) were borne to beare, & toke all things patiently.

But ambling on their way towards their owne home, (which is vnder my wing) where they knewe they should finde better entertainement, their mindes were troubled, and their teeth watered, at the remembrance of not onely Money, but also of apparell, and other luggage which was left in the Bed-chamber where the sicke man dyed, were which they perswaded themselues no man (vppon payne of life) vnlesse it were They two, durst or would once venture.

They shrugged as they went, and on a sudden starting backe, would they stand stone-still, for their braines were buzzing about seuerall plottes how to purchase this booty. But the powder of their wit beeing wet, and not so apt to take fire, they shoke their addle heads like a couple of rattles, and bit their lips for anger, that their tongues would speak nothing to help them in this peck of troubles. Faine would they haue returned backe, but durst not: their fingers itched to lay hold vpon the prize, but all the craft was in the catching.

At length one of them hauing a more plaugy pate than

his

his fellow, swore he would counterfet himselfe to be struck with sicknes, and with the poyson of infection to run mad if he got not the bayt that he nibled at, (without choaking himselfe with the hooke) onely by this tricke, he would dye for it: but if he [illegible]ent away with it cleare, all the fresh men in Cambridge sh[illegible]ld throwe their cappes at him, and not mend the denise.

The other scr[illegible] at this, and grind, instead of gyuing applaud it, which [illegible]ed that he had a liking to this parte of the Comedy. [illegible] faces therefore do they turne vpon Barnwell (nere Cambridge) for ther was it to be acted: thither comes this counterfet mad-man running: his fellow, Jugler following a loofe, crying stoppe the mad-man, take heed of the man, hees madde with the plague. Sometimes would he ouertake him, and lay hands vppon him (like a Catch-pole) as if he had arrested him, but furious Hamlet woulde presently eyther breake loose like a Beare from the stake, or else so set his pawes on this dog that thus bayted him, that with tugging and tearing one anothers frockes off, they both looked like mad Tom of Bedlam. Wheresoeuer they cam, there needed no Fencers nor Whiffleres to flourish before them to make way, for (as if a Bul had run vp and downe) the streetes were cleared, and none sought to stop him.

At length he came to the house where the deade man had bin lodged: from the dore would not this olde Ieronimo be driuen, that was his Inne, there he woulde lie, that was his Bedlam, and there or no where must his mad tricks be plaid.

In the end, the feare of further daunger to flowe from him (as being thought to haue the plague) and the authority of those that could command, made this vnruly guest be let into the same house, where entring, none durst keep him company, but the Byrd of his own feather, and that was the sport which hee looked for: In no other chamber must he be lodged, but onely that where, at the dead mans

gods lay, and that was the feast to which they longed to be bidden: where lying, and nothing minding, neare them, they plaid the merchants and packed up such commodities as they liked, and about the houre of the night when spirits vse to walke, did these Quicke Ghosts suddenly vanish forth, and before they were mislled, were laughing on their way, how they had cozened them that [illegible] in nothing but Learning.

And thus (to reuiue the [illegible] little, whose very lookes haue in them the Characters of [illegible]) haue I somewhat merily told thee this sad tale, which I rather wish to be seuerely punished, than to be laughed at, because the fact of those Two, was a kinde of Desperate, Daring, and Scorning of the wrath of Heauen.

I see (O Westminster) thou art weary of this my tedious discourse: besides the time groweth on, wherein we are both to be full of busines: least therefore by our example, those ouer whom we are bound to haue a care, should neglect their estates, and followe their owne pleasures as we two do now in gossiping thus long together, let vs here be silent, yet not part from one another, but decke vp our bodies to giue entertainement to that worthy and dearest Friend of ours, The

Terme,

Carmina tùm melius cùm venerit ipse canemus.

FINIS.